

Senate Resolution 6 - Introduced

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY SODDERS

1 A Resolution supporting an enhanced trade relationship
2 between Iowa and Cuba.

3 WHEREAS, Iowa leads the nation in corn production,
4 pork production, and egg production, and is second
5 in the nation in soybean production and red meat
6 production; and

7 WHEREAS, Iowa is home to approximately one-third of
8 the 100 largest food manufacturers or processors in the
9 United States and Canada and the food industry accounts
10 for approximately one-quarter of Iowa's manufacturing
11 and employs more than 50,000 Iowans; and

12 WHEREAS, enhancing trade with Cuba would create a
13 huge potential market for Iowa farmers and producers as
14 Cuba relies on imports for approximately 80 percent of
15 its food and the demand for food products, especially
16 meat, will increase as economic conditions improve in
17 Cuba; and

18 WHEREAS, advanced manufacturing drives Iowa's
19 economy and is Iowa's largest industry with just under
20 14 percent of Iowa's total employment resulting from
21 manufacturing positions; and

22 WHEREAS, enhancing trade with Cuba could increase
23 the need for advanced manufacturing products as Cuba
24 maintains extensive functional antique automobile and
25 farm machinery collections, which farm machinery will
26 need to be replaced as Cuba takes steps to privatize
27 more of its agricultural land; and

28 WHEREAS, Iowa has a long history of positive

1 interaction with nondemocratic political nations to the
2 benefit of Iowa's business interests without embracing
3 those nations' political structures; and

4 WHEREAS, such positive interaction was demonstrated
5 when Iowa received the Union of Soviet Socialist
6 Republics Premier, Nikita Khrushchev in 1959, and in
7 the positive relationship Iowa currently maintains with
8 President Xi Jinping, the president of the People's
9 Republic of China; and

10 WHEREAS, Cuba has a population of over 11 million
11 people relying on imports for food, manufacturing,
12 and production commodities, and increased trade could
13 further Iowa's market opportunities while allowing
14 the Cuban people to have access to better quality
15 food, better machinery, better technology, and a more
16 positive relationship with a democratic nation; NOW
17 THEREFORE,

18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
19 supports efforts to lessen and eliminate trade
20 restrictions to Cuba; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate supports an
22 enhanced trade relationship between Iowa and Cuba for
23 the benefit of both the people of Cuba and the people
24 of Iowa.